



# OT001-512/712

# Old Testament Foundations

## Unit Outline

### About this Unit Outline

This unit outline contains information essential to finding your way around the unit **Old Testament Foundations**. It provides a structure for your learning, giving details of lecture topics, assessment requirements, and key resources.

SEMESTER 1 2021

## Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at [www.acttheology.edu.au](http://www.acttheology.edu.au)

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work at the end of the semester.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the ACT's **Academic Misconduct Policy**, as well as ACT **Late Penalties Policy** and **Extensions Policy**, all of which are available on the ACT website. Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the relevant ACT Policies.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Handbook, headed **"Guidelines for Essays in Coursework Units"** (see also the QTC Student Handbook). All essays and assignments should comply with these standards.

Students should be aware that the delivery of this unit and results awarded are moderated by the ACT. See the ACT "Moderation Policy" and "Moderation Procedure" at [www.acttheology.edu.au/documents/](http://www.acttheology.edu.au/documents/) for full details.

# Information about this unit

## Unit description

This unit will introduce students to key features of the contents and background of the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) and the Former Prophets (Joshua, Judges, 1–2 Samuel, and 1–2 Kings).

The section on the Pentateuch (Weeks 1-7) will be taught by Gary Millar and Doug Green will teach the section on the Former Prophets (Weeks 8-13).

## ACT Census Date

**19 March 2021**

Students must confirm their enrolment in this unit with the QTC Registrar by Friday 19 March 2021. This is the last day on which you may withdraw from the unit without academic penalty (a Fail), or without being liable for the tuition fees. To make a change in your enrolment you must contact the QTC Registrar in writing at: [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au).

## Learning Outcomes

### OT001-512 Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, the student should have achieved the following learning outcomes:

#### Know and understand

1. Demonstrate foundational knowledge and understanding of the contents, themes and character of the Pentateuch and Historical books

#### Be able to:

1. Outline the content and character of the writings of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Formers Prophets
2. Identify the influence of the Ancient Near Eastern background on the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Formers Prophets
3. Describe the themes and theology of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Formers Prophets

#### Be in a position to:

1. Use perspectives from 'Old Testament Foundations' for personal understanding and in ministry contexts

### OT001-712 Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, the student should have achieved the following learning outcomes:

#### Know and understand

1. Demonstrate functional knowledge and understanding of the contents, themes and character of the Pentateuch and Historical books

#### Be able to:

1. Discuss the content and character of the writings of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets
2. Explain the influence of the Ancient Near Eastern background on the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets
3. Analyse the themes and theology of the Pentateuch/Torah and the Historical Books/Former Prophets

#### Be in a position to:

1. Apply perspectives from 'Old Testament Foundations' to current issues in Christian life and thought

## How this Unit Contributes to the Course

At QTC, all students studying towards the MDiv, GradDipDiv, BTh, BMin, DipTh, or DipMin usually include this unit within their course. This unit provides a foundation for further advanced Old Testament study.

This unit is designed as a PRIMARY DOCUMENT unit; therefore, the main objective is to ensure that students have a deep familiarity with the text of Genesis-2 Kings as a foundation for further study of the Old Testament.

## Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

There are no pre-requisites or co-requisites for OT001-512/712.

## How this unit is organized & what we expect of you

This unit includes three hours of lectures per week throughout the semester of 13 weeks.

**It is expected that the biblical text to be covered is read at least once in advance of class.** You will also be expected to read the relevant section of the course textbook (Longman & Dillard) *after each class*. Lectures will be supported where appropriate with lecture outlines.

**Please note that all students are expected to read the biblical books covered in their entirety at least three times during the semester.**

This unit is worth 12 credit points towards your degree. A 12 credit-point unit is considered to require an average time commitment of around 10 hours per week across all of the teaching and assessment weeks. Please speak with the lecturer as a matter of urgency if you are finding that you need to consistently spend more time than this on OT001.

Students are expected to attend all lectures, complete any set pre reading and complete any assessment tasks by the relevant due date. Please do be in touch as soon as you can if you anticipate having any difficulties with your assessments or with meeting the due date, and if you require an extension for one of your assessments please contact the QTC Registrar as early as possible.

## Teaching staff

UNIT COORDINATOR AND LECTURER

### Rev Dr Gary Millar

E [gmillar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:gmillar@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939

LECTURER

### Dr Douglas Green

E [dgreen@qtc.edu.au](mailto:dgreen@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939

Please feel free to contact Gary or Doug if you have any problems or concerns about the course.

## Other Key Contacts

### Registrar's office

Contact the Registrar's office for any queries about which unit to enrol in next, if you wish to change your enrolment, defer due to illness, family circumstances etc., or request an extension for your assessment (criteria apply).

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939

### Moodle functions and queries

Contact the Registrar for help if something on Moodle is not working, if you need help using Moodle etc.

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939

### Library/Resources

Contact the Librarian for help with finding resources for your assessment, finding full-text database articles, for help with logging into the library databases and catalogue, and for help with how to renew a book for longer or place a hold on a book currently out to another person. Also contact the library for any queries about audio recordings of your class on Moodle.

E [library@qtc.edu.au](mailto:library@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939

## Unit timetable: topics & teaching and learning activities

Subject to adjustment

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Week 1	Genesis 1–11
Week 2	Genesis 1–11 (and a word on interpreting controversial passages)
Week 3	Genesis 12–50 (and a word on the history of OT interpretation)
Week 4	Exodus (and a word on the OT and history)
Week 5	Leviticus
Week 6	Numbers
Week 7	Deuteronomy
MID-SEMESTER BREAK	
Week 8	Joshua
Week 9	Judges
Week 10	1 Samuel
Week 11	2 Samuel
Week 12	1 Kings
Week 13	2 Kings
ASSESSMENT WEEKS	

## OT001-512 Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT **Late Penalties** Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **3%** of the total possible marks for the assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within **10% of the required word limit**, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of **10%** of the total possible mark being deducted. **Please see the QTC Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count.** QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Essay</b> <b>2000 words total</b> <b>50% of final grade</b></p>	<p>Write a <b>2000 word</b> essay on <b>ONE</b> of the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How does the message of Genesis relate to the gospel?</li> <li>2. Was Abraham justified by faith or works? Does it matter?</li> <li>3. Do you think it's appropriate to view Moses as a forerunner of Jesus Christ?</li> <li>4. Why should Christians bother with Leviticus?</li> <li>5. Is the message of Numbers 22-24 sub-Christian?</li> <li>6. Does Deuteronomy preach the gospel?</li> </ol>
<p><b>90 Minute Exam</b> <b>2250 words total</b> <b>50% of final grade</b></p>	<p>A <b>90-minute exam</b> (approximately <b>2250 words total</b>). This exam will count for 50% of the total marks for the semester. It will be a different exam from that set for the Evening class.</p> <p>The exam will include two sections:</p> <p><b>Section A:</b> Students must answer <b>SIX</b> from ten short answer questions. All questions in this section are weighted equally. This section will count for two-thirds of the total examination marks.</p> <p><b>Section B:</b> Students must answer <b>ONE</b> essay question out of three questions. This section will count for one-third of the total examination marks.</p> <p>The short answer questions will be drawn from Genesis – 2 Kings. However, the long answer questions will be limited to Joshua – 2 Kings.</p>



## OT001-712 Assessments

**Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.**

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT **Late Penalties** Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of **3%** of the total possible marks for the assessment item **per calendar day**, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within **10% of the required word limit**, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of **10%** of the total possible mark being deducted. **Please see the QTC Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count.** QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Essay</b> <b>3000 words total</b> <b>50% of final grade</b></p>	<p>Write a <b>3000 word</b> essay on <b>ONE</b> of the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How important is Genesis 1-11 for the Christian and why?</li> <li>2. Can we legitimately describe Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as 'Christians'?</li> <li>3. Why does the Exodus matter for Christians?</li> <li>4. How is sin atoned for in the book of Leviticus? Is this important for Christians?</li> <li>5. Should we read Numbers as a warning for Christians?</li> <li>6. What is the expectation of Deuteronomy 30:1-10, and why is it significant for Christians?</li> </ol>
<p><b>2 Hour Exam</b> <b>3000 words</b> <b>50% of final grade</b></p>	<p>A <b>two-hour exam</b> (approximately <b>3000 words total</b>). This exam will count for 50% of the total marks for the semester. It will be a different exam from that set for the Evening class.</p> <p>The exam will include two sections:</p> <p><b>Section A:</b> Students must answer <b>THREE</b> from seven short answer questions. All questions in this section are weighted equally. This section will count for one-third of the total examination marks.</p> <p><b>Section B:</b> Students must answer <b>TWO</b> essay questions out of five questions. All questions in this section are weighted equally. This section will count for two-thirds of the total examination marks.</p> <p>The short answer questions will be drawn from Genesis – 2 Kings. However, the long answer questions will be limited to Josh – 2 Kings.</p>

# Guide to Assessments

## *What are we looking for?*

### **General remarks**

All students are expected to avail themselves of the guidelines for written assignments provided in the ACT Handbook (consult the table of contents) and in the QTC Student Handbook section 'Style Requirements for Written Assignments'.

All written work for this course should conform to the guidelines of the *SBL Handbook of Style* (with the exception of Australian spelling conventions).

Any Hebrew and Greek cited must be typed in a Unicode font; SBL BibLit is commended as one font covering Hebrew, Greek, and Roman Unicode ranges, but is not required. It is freely available from the SBL website: [http://sbl-site.org/educational/BiblicalFonts\\_SBLBibLit.aspx](http://sbl-site.org/educational/BiblicalFonts_SBLBibLit.aspx)

Do note carefully the number of words required for each assessment item, depending on whether you are enrolled for OT001-512 or OT001-712. For full information on what is included in the total word count, see the QTC Handbook section headed *Length of Assignments*.

### **For OT001-512/712**

1. It is important to remember that these assessments are designed *to test if you have grasped the basic shape and message of the part of the Bible you are considering* (looking at the historical context, appreciating the kind of literature we are reading and how that works, and then how this part of the Bible fits into the whole flow of Scripture). We are not asking you to master the secondary literature on that particular book (or part of a book). Whilst in essays, some interaction with secondary literature (primarily commentaries, especially the introductory discussions) and longer dictionary articles is expected, the assessment will be marked first and foremost on the extent to which you display familiarity with and understanding of the biblical text. Where appropriate within your answers, you should seek to briefly make connections to your other theological studies, and also briefly indicate implications for Christian life and thought today.
2. Which questions should I choose to answer? Choose a part of the Bible that you are interested in or intrigued by! You will complete a better assessment / exam answer if you are engaged!
3. In preparing for the final exam, please remember that it is structured to test all the material covered in the course. The short answer questions will be drawn from Genesis–2 Kings. *However, the long answer questions will be limited to Joshua–2 Kings.*
4. In both exams and essays, make sure that you ANSWER THE QUESTION! Before you start to write, you may find it helpful to make sure that you can answer the question asked in a couple of sentences, and then take some time to make sure that your essay is structured appropriately.

## Learning Resources

### Essential reference/textbook for OT001-512 and OT001-712:

Longman III, Tremper, and Raymond B. Dillard. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2006.

### Other recommended resources:

#### **Old Testament History, Background, Interpretation and Theology**

Alexander, T. Desmond and Brian S. Rosner, eds. *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2000.

Kitchen, Kenneth A. *On the Reliability of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2006.

La Sor, William Sanford, David Allan Hubbard, Frederic William Bush, and Leslie C. Allen. *Old Testament Survey: The Message, Form, and Background of the Old Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996.

Van Pelt, Miles. *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: The Gospel Promised*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2016.

Pratt, Richard L. *He Gave Us Stories: The Bible Student's Guide to Interpreting Old Testament Narratives*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian & Reformed, 1993.

Provan, Iain W., V. Philips Long and Tremper Longman III. *A Biblical History of Israel*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2003.

VanGemeren, Willem, ed. *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis*. 5 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1997.

Walton, John H. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament: Introducing the Conceptual World of the Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2006.

#### **On the Pentateuch**

Alexander, T. Desmond. *From Paradise to Promised Land*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2012.

Alexander, T. Desmond, and David W. Baker, eds. *The Dictionary of the Pentateuch*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2003.

Clines David J. A. *The Theme of the Pentateuch*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1997.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Exploring the Old Testament, Volume 1: A Guide to the Pentateuch*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2008.

#### **On Contentious Issues**

Collins, C. John. *Did Adam and Eve Really Exist?* Leicester: IVP, 2011.

Lennox, J. *Seven Days that Divide the World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011.

**On the Former Prophets**

McConville, J. Gordon. *Grace in the End*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1993.

McConville, J. Gordon, and P. E. Satterthwaite. *Exploring the Old Testament, Volume 2: A Guide to the Historical Books*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2012.

**Commentaries on Genesis**

Waltke, Bruce W. *Genesis: A Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

Walton, John H. *Genesis*. NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Genesis 1-15*. WBC 1. Dallas, TX: Word, 1987.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Genesis 16-50*. WBC 2. Dallas, TX: Word, 1994.

**Commentaries on Exodus**

Alexander, T. Desmond. *Exodus*. ApOTC 2. Nottingham: Apollos, 2017.

Enns, Peter W. *Exodus: The NIV Application Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000.

Fretheim, Terence. *Exodus*. IBC. Louisville, KY: John Knox, 1991.

**Commentaries on Leviticus**

Kiuchi, Nobuyoshi. *Leviticus and Numbers*. ApOTC 3. Leicester: IVP, 2007.

Sklar, Jay. *Leviticus: an Introduction and Commentary*. TOTC 3. Leicester: IVP, 2014.

Wenham Gordon J. *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1979.

**Commentaries on Numbers**

Ashley, Timothy R. *The Book of Numbers*. NICOT. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1993.

Olson, Dennis T. *Numbers*. IBC. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1996.

Wenham, Gordon J. *Numbers: an introduction and commentary*. TOTC. Leicester: IVP, 1981.

**Commentaries on Deuteronomy**

Block, Daniel I. *Deuteronomy*. NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012.

Craigie, Peter C. *The Book of Deuteronomy*. NICOT. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1976.

McConville, J. Gordon. *Deuteronomy*. ApOTC 5. Leicester: Apollos, 2002.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *Deuteronomy*. NIBCOT 4. Peabody, MA: Hendricksen, 1996.

**Commentaries on Joshua**

Hess, R. *Joshua: an introduction and commentary*. TOTC. Leicester: IVP, 2008.

Woudstra, M. *The Book of Joshua*. NICOT Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1981.

**Commentaries on Judges**

Webb, Barry G. *The Book of Judges*. NICOT. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012.

Block, Daniel I. *Judges, Ruth*. NAC 6. Nashville, TN: Holman, 1999.

**Commentaries on 1,2, Samuel**

Woodhouse, John. *1 Samuel: Looking for a Leader*. Preaching the Word. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008.

Woodhouse, John. *2 Samuel: Your Kingdom Come*. Preaching the Word. Wheaton, IL: Crossway 2015.

Firth, David, G. *1 & 2 Samuel*. ApOTC 8. Nottingham: Apollos, 2009.

**Commentaries on 1,2 Kings**

Millar, J, G. *1 & 2 Kings*. Pages 491-898 in ESVEC vol III. Wheaton, IL: Crossway 2019.

Provan, Iain M. *1 & 2 Kings*. NIBCOT, Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2000

Wray Beal, Lissa M. *1 & 2 Kings*. ApOTC 9. Nottingham: Apollos, 2014.

**Other Resources**

Clines, D.J. A. 'New Directions on Pooh Studies' available at <http://drmsb.com/Clines%20New%20Directions%20in%20Pooh%20Studies.pdf>

## ACT Standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4